

Page 9, add the new paragraph after the last line per the attached clean version.

Attached are new paragraphs to be added to pages.

In the claims

Please amend claims as follows:

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2. (Amended) A mechanical joint according to claim 1 wherein said first member is provided with a series of apertures formed at spaced intervals and each of said apertures ^{is provided for the formation of a mechanical joint in accordance with the invention.} _{omments?}

3. (Amended) A mechanical joint according to claim 1 wherein said second member lies in a plane substantially perpendicular to the plane of the longitudinal axis of said first member.

4. (Amended) A mechanical joint according to claim 1 wherein said first member is provided in an initial condition in an elongate form and the movement of said first and second edges of the opening of said aperture is about a pivotal axis located in said aperture or adjacent thereto so that said first member, when the joint is formed has relatively angled first and second portions at or adjacent to the formed joint.

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5. (Amended) A mechanical joint according to claim 1 wherein said aperture is formed so as to extend from one side of ¹⁵¹ _(the member) substantially across the majority

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of the member to the opposite side leaving a band of material at the opposite side.

6. (Amended) A mechanical joint according to claim 1 wherein ^{rel. to claim 1} (an insert) ^{respectively} is provided in said aperture and has upper and lower collars ~~formations~~ which protrude above or below the first member.

7. (Amended) A mechanical joint according to claim 1 wherein ^{memo & steps} in one form said second member positioned in said aperture ^{no drawn} is a former and is subsequently moved out of said aperture and replaced by an insert which can be held in position. ?

8. (Amended) A mechanical joint according to claim 1 wherein said second member is attached to an insert held within the opening.

9. (Amended) A method of forming a mechanical joint, said method including the following steps:

taking a first elongated member, forming an aperture depending from one edge of said member;

positioning a member or insert in the aperture; and

moving at least one portion of the member to move first and second edges of the opening towards one another to a degree which is sufficient to prevent the insert or member from passing through the opening.)

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cont
Sub 10. (Amended) A method according to claim 9 wherein said first and second edges are respectively moved so as to substantially close the opening and hence retain said member or insert in position in said aperture.

11. (Amended) A method according to claim 9 wherein the opening is completely closed by the provision of a closing member.

12. (Amended) A method of forming a mechanical joint, said method including the following steps:

taking a first elongate member, forming an aperture depending from one edge of said member;

positioning a former in the aperture; and

moving at least one portion of the member to at least partially close the opening to an extent which is sufficient to prevent the former from passing through the opening.

13. (Amended) A method according to claim 12 wherein said former is removed by sliding the same out of said aperture and replaced by an insert or second member which is positioned to engage in the opening and so engage a second member with said first member directly or via the insert.

Sub 14. (Amended) A method according to claim 12 wherein said former is an insert which is retained in position and to which said second member is connected.

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cont

15. (Amended) A method according to claim 12 wherein said former is part of said second member trapped in position to form the mechanical joint.

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16. (Amended) An item formed from at least a first and second member, said item comprising: being formed by engaging the second member with the first member via a mechanical joint and wherein said mechanical joint is formed with the first member including an opening defined therein for the reception of the second member ^{or} means to which the ^Bsecond member can be attached, (said edges) defining the opening moved to trap the means ^{or} second member in the opening and thereby form (the item of furniture.)

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17. (Amended) An item according to claim 16 wherein the item is formed from a series of selectively engaged members, at least one of said engagements made via a mechanical joint as herein described.

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18. (New) A method according to claim 9 wherein (the opening) is completely closed by the provision of weld material.